

NEW SOUTH WALES.

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BUSINESS STATISTICS - AUGUST 23rd, 1942.

7 SEP 1942

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PART I. PRIMARY & EXPORT INDUSTRIES.

GENERAL.

Seasonal Conditions: Some general rains, moderate to light, were recorded in most areas of N.S.W. early in August. In the second and third weeks, the central and southern tablelands, slopes and adjacent plains received useful rains but only very slight falls were recorded in coastal areas.

More rain is needed in the area north of Moree but elsewhere the pastoral outlook is very promising. Surface water supplies have been replenished.

In the wheat belt the crops require a period of fine weather to maintain them in their present satisfactory condition.

Southerly and westerly winds in the first fortnight of August brought cool conditions to most of the State and widespread frosts. Some snow fell on southern and central highlands.

Rabbits are reported to be increasing steadily in many districts and fears are expressed that the pest will cause much damage in the spring and summer. Wirenetting and manpower shortages will weaken counter measures.

Brief Notes: The harvesting of maize on the North Coast has been delayed by rain. Aggregate yield is expected to be lower than for many years.

Orange crops on the Curlwaa and Coomealla irrigation areas may be heavy though probably below last year's pack. Sultana, currant and lexia crops are very good and of superior quality.

Dried vine fruits quotas for local consumption have been increased.

DRIED VINE FRUITS - QUOTAS FOR INTRASTATE TRADE.

Year	Currants	Sultanas	Lexias
	%	%	%
1939	14	19	50
1940	15	14	45
1941	17	14½	49
1942	26	18½	50

Potatoes grown in N.S.W. this year will reach 31,000 acres i.e. about 10,000 acres above normal if the official objective is achieved. Seed potatoes are scarce.

Cotton seed has been made available by Queensland authorities free of charge to N.S.W. growers who will keep a record of their crops. A large expansion of cotton growing is taking place in Queensland and by reducing our cotton import requirements it is a material contribution to the war effort.

Meat dehydration is as yet proceeding at only one plant - the Metropolitan Meat Industry Commission plant at Homebush Bay..

The Commonwealth Government will in future pay to local suppliers the United Kingdom export prices for mutton and lamb for canning. Previously the price paid for mutton was 15% below and for lamb 9.3% below the prices for export to U.K. The difference in prices for spring and summer lamb has been removed. The difference operated chiefly against N.S.W. graziers.

The Minister for Commerce has stressed the necessity for a large increase, in supplies of sheep offered for canning purposes in response to the increased price.

A warning has been issued that maximum prices may be fixed for bacon pigs following the bidding up of prices by fresh pork operators. As much as 50% above the Government's guaranteed price for bacon pigs has been offered.

The Control of Sale of Meat Order prohibits the retailing of meat except under license at any shop not already used for this business on 1st April, 1942.

The following commentary is taken from "The Pastoral Review":-

"Seasonal conditions in all States continue to favour fat lamb breeding, and there is little doubt that the supply available for export will be in excess of that of last season, though whether actual killings for export will be greater has yet to be seen. Even should sufficient slaughtermen be released, a greater than last year's shortage of labourers is almost certain to affect meat works operations. Restrictions on rail and road transport will also tend to limit killings at the peak period. There has been no noticeable revival in the mutton section of the trade, recent killings being confined to small tallies at certain N.S.W. works. Assumably these were for canning or dehydration at the Homebush abattoir plant. To-day's market values of first grade wethers and ewes are a long way above frozen mutton parity. Prices may drop when more off-shear sheep come on the market, but it is unlikely that there will be a large surplus so long as feed is plentiful in the country".

One difficulty at present standing in the way of increased consumption of mutton and lamb in place of beef is the high level of prices for the former. These prices may fall in coming months when the normal seasonal increase in sheep and lamb yardings takes place.

WOOL.

The 1941/42 appraisalment operations were finalised by the payment on 31st July of £7,887,548 consisting of 1.1785d. a lb. equalisation to bring the average price of the Australian clip up to 13.4375d. a lb, the British purchase price, and 5% retention money.

Results for the past three seasons were as follows:

<u>Australia:</u>	<u>1939/40</u>	<u>1940/41</u>	<u>1941/42</u>
No. of Bales appraised	3,621,095	3,506,210	3,577,966
Value at 13.4375d. a lb.	£64,723,084	£60,959,828	£63,126,096

In New South Wales, production of wool in 1941/42 was 547 million lbs., slightly exceeding the record clip in 1939-40. The average clip for grown sheep was 9.1 lb. per head and for lambs 2.9 lb. per head. The overall average clip was 8.5 lb. per head.

SHEEP AND WOOL STATISTICS, N.S.W.

Item	1938/39	1939/40	1940/41	1941/42
No. of sheep -				
Beginning of year (1st April) '000	51,563	48,877	54,372	55,568
End of Year (31st March) '000	48,877	54,372	55,568	56,737
Lambs Marked '000	9,286	15,674	14,014	14,616
No. of Ewes mated '000	17,671	22,232	21,877	(a)
Sheep & Lambs Shorn '000	51,530	54,637	57,704	58,537
Weight of Wool Produced (Greasy Basis)				
Shorn and Crutched '000 lb.	391,627	497,356	483,992	497,446
Dead "	2,427	1,095	1,326	1,125
Fellmongered "	25,677	47,822	51,589	48,429
Exported on Skins "	17,410			
Total Production	437,141	546,273	536,907	547,000

(a) Not recorded

Appraisements in Sydney of the new season's clip and the carryover commenced on 27th July and in due course the first payments to growers, less the usual 5% retention money, were made on 18th August, 1942. The bulk of the clips dealt with in the first and second appraisal series were for western and north western. Many parcels showed evidence of the unfavourable seasonal conditions in 1941/42. By 23rd August approximately 100,000 bales had been appraised this season in Sydney and Newcastle.

Deliveries of wool into store at the seaboard so far have been below deliveries in the corresponding period last year. The authorities had hoped to spread wool appraisal and storage operations more evenly over the year but various causes have intervened to delay business. Shearing was held up by rain; wet roads hampered transport to railhead. In addition, rolling stock is in short supply.

WOOL RECEIVED INTO STORE, SYDNEY.

<u>Period</u>	<u>1938/39</u>	<u>1939/40</u>	<u>1940/41</u>	<u>1941/42</u>	<u>1942/43</u>
	<u>No. of Bales.</u>				
Year ended June	1,078,107	1,345,734	1,271,709	1,263,677	-
Half year ended June	161,851	188,651	186,342	202,635	--
Month of July	29,882	53,933	86,083	80,397	67,442

Reports so far to hand indicate satisfactory to good lambing.

Shortage of manpower for shearing does not appear to have been felt seriously so far except that in some cases suitable shed hands have been difficult to obtain. Increased rates of pay for shearers operate from 24th August. The adjustment has been made on the basis of the rise in cost of living. The Arbitration Court proposes to review the rates of pay and allowances after the close of the current season.

The Australian Wool Board, which is concerned with publicity and research, has by official request, ceased wool publicity in Britain. Publicity is still carried out in United States where per capita consumption of wool is very meagre.

Production of wool in U.S.A. in 1941 was a record at 399.9m. lbs. from 48.9m. sheep. In 1942, production may be 410m. lbs. The whole of the British Government strategic reserve of wool (said to be 167m. lbs.) in U.S.A. was sold for Government use and further supplies were offered by Britain. It is reported that in 1940/41, a million bales of Australian wool were shipped to U.S.A. where consumption of apparel types last year reached 515.7m. lbs. compared with 310m. lb. in 1940. In March, 1942, U.S. apparel wool consumption was 50.3m. lb., equivalent to over 600m. lbs. a year.

Argentine production of wool has been increasing rapidly as the following figures show:- (millions of lbs. greasy)

1937/38	--	376	1939/40	--	394	1941/42	--	473
1938/39	--	385	1940/41	--	?			(Estim.)

Exports from Argentina of home-grown wool were 335m. lbs. in 1938 and 329m. lbs. in 1939/40. As home requirements are about 60m. lbs. the exportable surplus this year will be much above previous years. At the end of March, 1942, some 300m. lbs. were awaiting shipment. Much of this had been purchased by U.S. interests.

Under an arrangement with the British Wool Control, the bulk of 250,000 bales of the 1941/42 clip shipped from Port Elizabeth, South Africa, was destined for U.S.A. Expansion of woollen manufacturing capacity in South Africa is expected to result from an agreement between the S.A. Wool Council and the Industrial Development Corporation.

WHEAT.

Crop prospects generally are very good. Weather has been relatively mild and

the sub-soil holds a reserve of moisture against coming warmer weather. The wheat belt requires fine weather now to develop crops satisfactorily.

The Commonwealth Government has adopted the wheat plan announced some months ago. Growers will receive for the first 3000 bushels of their 1942/43 crop a guaranteed price of 4/- a bushel net at country sidings; the excess wheat from larger crops will be pooled. A first advance of 2/- net a bushel will be paid out of the pool and expenses will be recouped from subsequent payments.

The price of wheat for local flour is fixed at 3/11 $\frac{1}{4}$ bulk ex trucks at ports. A table of prices in recent years is given below. On the Chicago Exchange September futures realised 117 $\frac{3}{4}$ cents per bushel on August 22nd. The average price in July, 1942 for Sept. futures was 119 15/16 cents (U.S. Currency) per bus. compared with 120 11/16 cents per bus. in June, 1942 and 105 $\frac{5}{8}$ cents in July, 1941. In Winnipeg October futures have been quoted at 90 cents (Canadian currency) since the beginning of July. In July last year October futures averaged 76 13/16 cents a bus. on the Winnipeg Exchange.

PRICES OF WHEAT IN N.S. W.

	Season ended November - per bushel									
	Av. 1931-35		1937		1939		1940		1941	
	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
Bulk Wheat on trucks - Sydney										
Shippers buying quotes	2	9 $\frac{1}{2}$ [*]	5	3	2	5	
Milling, for local consumption ⁺		3	10 $\frac{1}{2}$	3	11 $\frac{1}{4}$
Average return to farmer at country rail (less cost of bags) +	2	5 $\frac{1}{2}$	4	8	2	3 $\frac{1}{2}$	2	10 $\frac{1}{2}$	3	2 $\frac{1}{2}$ ^φ

* Bagged.

+ Including bounty, assistance from flour tax, etc.

φ Subject to revision.

* Fixed by Australian Wheat Board.

Superphosphate supplies available for wheat growers next year are expected to be about 30% lower than at present. The quantity will thus be about half that used in 1939-40. The Commonwealth Government is continuing during the current season the rebate of 25/- per ton on superphosphate purchases.

The price of binder twine, which is a farm necessity, has been raised from 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. (1941/42) to 9 $\frac{3}{4}$ d. a lb. East Africa has replaced Java as the source of the raw material.

DAIRYING INDUSTRIES.

Annual statistics collected by the Government Statistician reveal a decline in 1941/42, compared with the previous year, of 349 in the number of registered dairies in coastal districts and 355 in inland districts. The number of cows in registered dairies at 31st March remained steady at 1,055,000 which is 14,000 below 1939 and 1940 and 119,000 below the peak number recorded in 1935.

Butter production on farms in 1941/42 was 4.1m. lbs. and in factories 85.1m. lbs. The total was 40% below the record output in N.S.W. in 1933/34.

DAIRYING STATISTICS, N.S.W.

Item.	1933/34	1938/39	1940/41	1941/42
Registered Dairies -				
Coastal Areas No.	17,782	17,185	16,851	16,302
Inland No.	5,814	3,771	3,837	3,482
Cows on Reg'd Dairies '000	1,156	1,069	1,055	1,055
Butter Produced-				
Farms m. lb.	5.66	4.98	4.78	4.10
Factories m. lb.	143.21(a)	113.84	103.78	85.12
Total m. lb.	148.87	118.82	108.56	89.22

(a) Record production.

A progress report regarding an inquiry into the dairy industry, covering 35,318 dairies (or 66% of the total number in Aust.), disclosed an increase in the number of dairy cattle from 1,909,000 last year to 2,011,000 this year. At the peak season 1,374,000 are expected to be in milk compared with 1,327,000 last year. An increase over last year of 59,000 acres sown to fodder crops has brought the total to 953,400 acres. The manpower permanently engaged consists of 51,043 men and 12,027 women while 8,232 men and 21,547 women are employed part-time. From dairy farms 9,951 men enlisted and 6,697 men left to take up other employment. No man employed full-time in the production of essential foodstuffs will in future be called up for military service.

The British Ministry of Food has withdrawn its request to Australia and New Zealand to expand cheese production. Apparently sufficient supplies are being received from Canada, U.S.A. and other countries. Britain's requirements of butter have been increased. In New Zealand some compensation is being paid to farmers etc. who spent funds to convert facilities and expand cheese production.

Butter produced in N.S.W. factories declines seasonally from May to June, 1942, but the decline was not so pronounced as in previous years. Production in 1941/42 was 18% below the previous year and 24% below 1939/40.

Forecasts by factory managers indicate that, under conditions now current, the output of butter in the months to October, 1942, is not expected to exceed the output of corresponding months of 1941.

BUTTER PRODUCTION - N.S.W. FACTORIES.

'000,000 lbs.

Year	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	
1938-39	113.8	12.6	11.4	9.7	10.8	12.1	11.9	10.5	7.7
1939-40	112.0	13.5	13.8	12.6	10.6	9.6	9.2	7.3	5.1
1940-41	103.7	8.2	11.4	14.5	12.8	11.7	8.7	6.8	5.2
1941-42	85.1	7.9	8.6	6.7	8.5	10.1	8.6	6.8	5.5

Pay in July, 1942 to suppliers of cream to certain North Coast factories was at the same rate as in the two preceding seasons. The average pay per lb. of commercial butter made during the six months ended June, 1942 was 13.758d. including 1d. deferred pay.

N.S.W. BUTTER - PAY TO CREAM SUPPLIERS

BY CERTAIN NORTH COAST FACTORIES.

Pence per lb. of commercial butter made.

Year	Nov.	Dec.	Deferred Pay		Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July
			July-Dec.	Jan-June							
1934-35*	7 $\frac{1}{2}$	7 $\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{3}{4}$	$\frac{3}{4}$	9 $\frac{1}{4}$	9	8 $\frac{1}{2}$	9 $\frac{1}{4}$	10 $\frac{1}{4}$	11 $\frac{3}{4}$	9 $\frac{1}{2}$
1938-39	11 $\frac{1}{2}$	11 $\frac{1}{4}$	$\frac{5}{16}$	1.06	12 $\frac{1}{4}$	12 $\frac{1}{2}$	12 $\frac{1}{2}$	12 $\frac{1}{4}$	12	12 $\frac{1}{2}$	12 $\frac{1}{2}$
1939-40	11 $\frac{3}{4}$	12	$\frac{3}{4}$	1 $\frac{3}{4}$	12 $\frac{1}{2}$	12 $\frac{5}{8}$	12 $\frac{5}{8}$	12 $\frac{3}{4}$	13	13 $\frac{1}{4}$	13 $\frac{1}{4}$
1940-41	12 $\frac{3}{4}$	12 $\frac{3}{4}$	$\frac{3}{4}$	1	12 $\frac{1}{2}$	12 $\frac{3}{8}$	12 $\frac{3}{4}$	12 $\frac{7}{8}$	13	13 $\frac{1}{4}$	13 $\frac{1}{4}$
1941-42	12 $\frac{5}{8}$	12 $\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	1	12 $\frac{1}{4}$	12 $\frac{1}{4}$	12 $\frac{1}{2}$	12 $\frac{1}{2}$	13	13 $\frac{1}{2}$	13 $\frac{1}{4}$

* Includes cartage (about $\frac{3}{8}$ d. per lb.) now paid by factory

Dairying interests are pressing for an increase in the price of butter. The average wholesale price of choicest butter in Sydney during the months of May, June and July, 1942 was steady at 1/5.9 per lb. The corresponding average price in the calendar year 1938 was 1/4.56. In each of the following three years it was 1/5 a lb. (choicest grade, wholesale).

The quotas of butter and cheese for local consumption in August, 1942 - 76% and 50% respectively - were still high relative to previous years, although lower than the peak quotas of June and July.

QUOTAS OF BUTTER AND CHEESE FOR LOCAL CONSUMPTION

N.S.W. VIC., Q'LD. AND TAS.

MONTH	B U T T E R				C H E E S E ø			
	x 1934/35	1940/41	1941/42	1942/43	1934/35	1940/41	1941/42	1942/43
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
July	50	73	64	84	75	51	61	68
Aug.	55	61	57	76	75	41	47.5	50
Sep.	50	54	51		75	39	36	
Oct.	33 ¹ / ₃	42	46		37	33	28	
Nov.	26	37	45		44	30	29	
Dec.	24	39	38		38	31	29	
Jan.	24	36	37		40	36	37	
Feb.	29	37	46		50	46	45	
Mar.	32	44	47		58	50	42	
Apr.	43	53	56		61	58	44	
May	47	57	70		61	63	68	
June	68	71	85		78	70	63	

x Year of record production in Australia

ø Quotas apply to South Aust. also.

PART II FINANCE AND TRADE.

Details are awaited of the "Austerity" Loan of £100 m., of which £77 m. will be new money and £23 m. is for conversion purposes. The Prime Minister is to speak to the nation on the third Anniversary of the war.

The Budget to be introduced next week is expected to show a greatly expanded programme of war expenditure.

BOND YIELDS.

During July, the yield on Commonwealth Bonds short-dated and subject to 1930 taxation fell to 2.89%. The weighted average yield on the these bonds has been falling since March when it was 3.07%

The market for Government bonds is firm and the prices of some issues have shown gains in August. The tone of the Sydney Stock Exchange is lively, chief business being in good class industrials. There are no sellers of many shares for which maximum limit prices are being offered, and turnovers have been small. The index of Industrial Share Prices issued by the Sydney Stock Exchange and covering 34 active shares (par value = 100) moved from 104.21 on 1st August to 108.49 on 25th August.

YIELD ON COMMONWEALTH GOVERNMENT BONDS IN AUSTRALIA.

Weighted Averages. Compiled by the Commonwealth Bank.

Last Wednesday in Month.	Maturing in 5 years & under 10 years.		Maturing in 10 years and over. Taxed at 1930 rates. %
	Taxed at full C'wealth rates %	Taxed at 1930 C'wealth rates %	
1940 - July	2.95	3.24	3.27
1941 "	3.08	2.91	3.14
1942 "	3.22	2.89	3.13
1942 - Jan.	3.22	2.92	3.04
May	3.23	2.95	3.12
June	3.22	2.93	3.13
July	3.22	2.89	3.13

WHOLESALE TRADE.

Sales of goods by registered wholesalers reached £20.72 m. in May, 1942 compared with £19.19 m. in April and £18.8 m. in May, 1941. The value of sales is to some extent inflated by the rise in price levels and this should be borne in mind when comparison is made with earlier periods. The check on retail trade exerted by the quota on clothing sales in May, followed by coupon rationing in June, will not be reflected so quickly in wholesale sales. Retail traders were allowed to purchase stocks of clothing from wholesalers until 3rd August without surrendering coupons.

WHOLESALE TRADE - N.S.W.

Sales by traders registered under Sales Tax Acts.
Total Taxable & Exempt Goods.

Month	1938	1939	1940	1941	1942
	£m.	£m.	£m.	£m.	£m.
Jan.	14.2	13.2	16.3	15.8	18.69
Feb.	15.7	16.6	14.6	17.5	19.39
Mar.	15.8	15.8	17.0	17.4	19.53
Apr.	16.8	15.8	17.9	19.1	19.19
May	16.9	17.5	14.9	18.8	20.72
June	15.0	14.9	17.1	21.8	
July	16.2	15.3	16.7	17.6	
Aug.	15.3	16.8	17.2	20.4	
Sept.	17.5	19.4	17.5	21.6	
Oct.	15.7	19.2	18.5	18.3	
Nov.	16.9	17.5	18.1	20.6	
Dec.	17.0	18.3	17.0	20.3	
Year	193.0	200.3	202.8	229.0	

RETAIL TRADE.

During the month of May, when a quota restriction was placed on clothing sales, the value of net sales at retail in Sydney was below the corresponding month of the previous year for the first time since September, 1940. On June 15th, clothes rationing came into force and a cessation of panic buying resulted. Consequently value of net retail sales in Sydney in June, 1942, was 19.1% below sales in June, 1941. The classes of goods showing the greatest decreases in value of net sales were:- Men's and boys' wear (34.9%), Women's wear (31.3%), Dress piece goods (45.6%), Sports and travel goods (12.4%) and Building materials, tools etc. (11.2%). All clothing and piece goods together showed a decline of 29.2%. Furniture sales were lower by 9.3%.

During the first quarter and half-year of 1942 retail sales in Sydney were 11.5% and 3.7% respectively above sales in corresponding periods of 1941. During the half-year, clothing sales generally were higher than in the previous year except that men's wear sales remained at the same level. It should be remembered, of course, that the number of men requiring civilian clothes was less. The net value of sales of boots and shoes was considerably higher reflecting the effect of panic buying but the value as stocks of boots and shoes in June were still 15.3% above the previous year.

The demand for boot and shoe repairs has been so great that it became necessary to release for civilian use 800,000 half-soles intended for the Imperial forces.

Clothes rationing has resulted in a greatly reduced demand for certain types of goods. In order that stocks of these goods might be liquidated lower coupon ratings may be permitted.

Employment in retail stores in Sydney, after a small decline in May showed a sharp fall in June to 10.9% below the level of June, 1941.

RETAIL TRADE - SYDNEY.

Percentage increase from the corresponding period of the previous year.

Period	Value of Net sales.	Value of Stock.	Wages & Salaries Paid.	Number of Employees.
1939 Jan.-Dec.	+ 2.4	+ 2.0	+ 2.6	+ 0.9
1940 Jan.-Dec.	+ 3.5	+ 17.0	+ 4.0	+ 1.9
1941 Jan.-Dec.	+ 14.6	+ 8.0	+ 9.0	+ 4.0
1941 - Oct.	+ 18.1	+ 13.6	+ 12.6	+ 6.9
Nov.	+ 7.4	+ 16.2	+ 8.8	+ 5.7
Dec.	+ 4.8	+ 21.5	+ 11.2	+ 3.7
1942 - Jan.	+ 5.5	+ 21.1	+ 8.3	+ 4.6
Feb.	+ 3.4	+ 19.2	+ 4.3	+ 0.7
Mar.	+ 25.9	+ 11.5	+ 4.6	+ 0.6
Apr.	+ 25.6	+ 8.7	+ 7.8	+ 0.1
May	(-) 8.7	+ 11.5	(-) 0.3	(-) 3.4
June	(-) 19.1	+ 10.5	(-) 1.7	(-) 10.9

EMPLOYMENT.

Total wage-earners (excl. domestics) in non-rural employment in N.S.W. at the end of May numbered 776,500 or about the same as in August, 1941. Compared with April, employment in the above group decreased by about 2,700. Males employed declined by about 2,800 while females increased slightly. (See Table B.S. 1942/8A).

From May to June, 1942 direct employment by Governmental and semi-governmental bodies in N.S.W. is estimated to have increased by 1,050 comprising 500 males and 550 females.

Factory employment again increased in May to an estimated total of 297,100. This compares with 227,800 in May, 1939. Between these dates, females employed in factories increased by 20,100 and males by 49,200.

FACTORY EMPLOYMENT, N.S.W.
(Including Working Proprietors).
Thousands.

	1938-39			1940-41			1941-42 (a)		
	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.
July	165.2	60.4	225.6	180.0	66.0	246.0	209.2	75.1	284.3
Aug.	166.2	61.1	227.3	183.4	67.4	250.8	210.8	76.5	287.3
Sept.	166.3	61.8	228.1	185.6	69.1	254.7	214.9	77.1	292.0
Oct.	166.5	62.3	228.8	187.1	70.3	257.4	215.2	77.9	293.1
Nov.	166.6	62.4	229.0	191.3	71.4	262.7	216.5	78.6	295.1
Dec.	166.2	62.2	228.4	194.1	72.1	266.2	215.5	78.1	293.6
Jan.	164.0	57.6	221.6	193.4	69.4	262.8	214.8	77.3	292.1
Feb.	165.6	60.8	226.4	197.1	72.3	269.4	215.8	79.7	295.5
Mar.	167.0	62.0	229.0	202.3	73.9	276.2	215.8	80.8	296.6
Apr.	165.9	61.5	227.4	200.6	73.1	273.7	215.8	80.7	296.5
May	166.6	61.2	227.8	204.9	73.8	278.7	215.8	81.3	297.1
June	166.9	60.4	227.3	207.6	74.2	281.8			

(a) Preliminary subject to revision.

Persons sent to employment by National Service Office in N.S.W. during the month of June numbered 10,986 including 8,509 males.

NATIONAL SERVICE OFFICES, N.S.W.

Number of Persons sent to Employment.

	April, 1942.			May, 1942.			June, 1942.		
	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.
Adults	9,432	1,610	11,042	6,899	1,987	8,886	7,303	1,858	9,161
Minors	382	525	907	840	478	1,318	1,206	619	1,825
Total	9,814	2,135	11,949	7,739	2,465	10,204	8,509	2,477	10,986

The number of unemployed males registered at National Service Offices in June was 1,913 compared with 2,186 a month earlier. The number registered at Metropolitan Offices has shown a rapid decline while there has been little change in other areas.

N.S.W. - UNEMPLOYED MALES REGISTERED, END OF MONTH.

District.	March 1942	April 1942	May 1942	June 1942
Metropolitan Areas (incl. Liverpool and Penrith)	1,340	1,543	839	463
Bathurst, Orange & Dubbo	250	304	261	134
Cootamundra, Young & Wagga	249	197	125	188
Albury & Broken Hill	68	147	274	369
Newcastle & Maitland	198	118	286	241
Tamworth & Inverell	87	121	142	263
All other areas	249	258	259	235
Total, N.S.W.	2,441	2,688	2,186	1,913

CROP LIENS & LIVERSTOCK MORTGAGES.

Farmers and graziers benefiting by Government purchase schemes which ensure a quick return for their produce, have less need of recourse to outside finance. The statistics below illustrate this.

The wool appraisalment scheme has been most beneficial to graziers by providing payment a fortnight after appraisal of their clips, and the new scheme for the 1942/43 wheat crop described earlier will ensure a quicker and higher return for most wheat-farmers.

LIENS ON CROPS AND WOOL AND MORTGAGES ON LIVESTOCK.

	Month of July			Seven months ended July 31.		
	Crops	Wool ^x	Livestock ^x	Crops	Wool ^x	Livestock ^x
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
1939	134.5	252.4	155.8	1,519.7	2,369.2	968.5
1940	151.3	233.6	125.8	1,441.5	2,479.7	961.9
1941	110.4	154.6	110.7	1,741.2	2,036.3	836.1
1942	140.0	162.2	77.5	1,400.8	1,736.7	484.3

^x Loans secured by both lien on wool and mortgage on sheep are included under the two headings.

Fluctuating advances (such as overdrafts) secured by mortgage are excluded.

PART III INDUSTRIES.BUILDING.

The only important building now proceeding consists of factories and other essential work. Very few dwellings are commenced in the Metropolitan Water Board Area and no flat buildings were commenced in the three months ended June, 1942. Private building is now overshadowed by Government construction.

BUILDINGS COMMENCED - METROPOLITAN
WATER BOARD AREA.

Period.	Dwelling Houses (excl. Flats).	VALUE - £'000.				Total.		Grand Total.
		Dwelling Houses	Flats	Business Premises (a)	Misc.	City	Suburbs	
	Number.							
1938	7,457	6,001	2,481	3,496	564	2,007	10,535	12,542
1939	7,341	5,967	1,855	3,130	955	1,800	10,107	11,907
1940	7,161	6,157	2,341	2,795	1,581	1,545	11,329	12,874
1941	7,177	6,556	2,450	1,738	1,074	706	11,112	11,818
1941 June	613	564	320	128	90	43	1,059	1,102
Nov.	634	547	162	83	31	26	797	823
Dec.	361	309	45	82	92	18	510	528
1942 Jan.	534	294	57	66	99	13	503	516
Mar.	54	38	4	43	12	13	84	97
May	13	8	-	362	74	30	414	444
June	30	19	-	775	48	81	761	842

(a) Includes Factories.

Private building activity (measured by the estimated cost of alterations, additions and new buildings) City and suburbs showed a decline from £424,000 in March quarter to £289,000 in June Quarter 1942. In other areas for which returns are received private building declined from £533,000 to £315,000. The value of Government building contracts let declined by 50% from £1,496,000 to £759,000. The value of buildings erected by Government authorities by day labour is not recorded. A summary table of private and Government building in recent months and the years 1938-41 appeared in B.S. 1942/8A.

The following table gives an analysis of private building by classes of buildings.

/VALUE.....

VALUE OF BUILDINGS, ALTERATIONS ETC. FOR WHICH PERMITS ISSUED.
(Private Building only)

Period.	Houses.		Flats (a)	Factories	Shops (b) & Public Garages	Other (Offices, Hotels, Hospitals etc.)	Total
	Brick	Wood, Fibro, etc.					
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
<i>Sydney & suburbs.</i>							
June Quarter							
1939	1,130	261	862	338	114	525	3,230
1941	1,575	264	806	280	84	225	3,234
1942	3	1	...	220	3	62	289
Year 1938/39	4,656	973	3,181	1,010	676	2,837	13,333
1940/41	5,309	756	2,962	1,186	341	1,452	12,006
1941/42	3,022	609	878	1,057	63	340	5,969
129 Industrial and Rural Towns, N.S.W.							
June Quarter							
1939	198	490	25	22	123	268	1,126
1941	202	393	36	100	54	175	960
1942	55	124	4	12	9	61	265
Year 1938/39	808	1,987	204	169	563	1,123	4,854
1940/41	645	1,429	96	267	203	839	3,479
1941/42	510	1,195	55	153	85	388	2,386
Total N.S.W. (as far as recorded).							
June Quarter							
1939	1,328	751	887	360	237	793	4,356
1941	1,777	657	842	380	138	400	4,194
1942	58	125	4	232	12	123	554
Year 1938/39	5,464	2,960	3,385	1,179	1,239	3,960	18,187
1940/41	5,954	2,185	3,058	1,453	544	2,291	15,485
1941/42	3,532	1,804	933	1,210	148	728	8,355

Includes - (a) Conversions to Flats; (b) Shops with dwellings attached.

It was in the second half of 1941/42 that the full severity of restrictions on building, including the ban on new houses, was felt. Factory construction showed slight variation from the pre-war year, 1938/39 but in total, the value of private building in 1941/42 (£8.4 m.) was only 54% of the previous year's figure (£15.5 m.) and 46% of the value in 1938/39. Comparing June Qr. this year with June Qr. 1939, the value of private building in Sydney and suburbs had decreased 92%. In country towns, the decline was 76%.

Building permits for private work issued by metropolitan councils in July, 1942 and Government contracts let in that month for building in N.S.W. are shown in the table below. During the seven months ended July permits were issued for private building in the metropolitan area to the value of £773,000 compared with £6,830,000 in the same period last year. Government building Jan.-July, 1942, was slightly higher than in the same period of 1940 and 1941.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

PRIVATE BUILDING (PERMITS - METROPOLIS) - AND GOVERNMENT BUILDING.

Year.	Month of July.			Seven Months ended July.		
	Private ø (Permits).	Government (Contracts accepted).		Private ø (Permits).	Government (Contracts accepted).	
	City & Subs.	City & Subs.	Other, N.S.W.	City & Subs.	City & Subs.	Other, N.S.W.
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
1938	1,741	x	x	8,536	x	x
1939	1,522	37	87	7,608	x	x
1940	1,048	174	738	6,351	492	1,945
1941	1,239	155	307	6,830	1,056	1,344
1942	61	63	244	773	569	2,025

ø Includes additions and alterations.
x Not available.

WIRELESS LICENSES.

The number of broadcast listeners' licenses in force in N.S.W. showed little change from December, 1941, to June, 1942. The cessation of new house construction and due to the call-up, the decrease in the number of family units being set up can be related to the stationary level of listeners' licenses in force.

WIRELESS LICENSES - N.S.W.

Broadcast Listeners' Licenses in force (excl. experimental licenses).

End of Month.	1938/39	1939/40	1940/41	1941/42.
	'000	'000	'000	'000
Aug.	415	431	476	498
Dec.	421	442	484	501
Jan.	424	445	486	503
Feb.	427	447	488	500
Mar.	428	447	492	502.8
Apr.	429	451	494	503.5
May	431	455	495	500.6
June	433	458	495	500.5